A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE British Nation.

Thursday, January 26. 1710.

I Have Addreſſed this Paper lately to the Parliament of *Britain*, in order humbly to move them to Proſecute, Cenſure and Condemn the *Principles* that the Enemies of our common Peace have given us ſuch Diſturbance about——— I have not Arrogance enough to tell you, that at my Motion they have done it——but (happy I hope it is for us all) the thing is done; they have Condemned the Nauſeous Abſurdities of *Non-Reſiſtance*, *Divine Right* of Succeſſion, and *Uncondition'd Obedience*; It is done in the Introduction, *and alſo* in the Concluſion of their Charge againſt Dr. *Sacheverell*, and I doubt not but we ſhall ſee it effectually Proſecuted at the Bar of the Houſe of Lords.

I deſire now, Gentlemen, to turn a little my Addreſs to the good People of *Scotland*——— And with my uſual Plainneſs, I hope you will bear with it, to talk with you a little about *Liberty*, *Toleration*, *Perſecution*, publick *Safety*, Independency *of Churches*, Advantages or Diſadvantages of the Union, *and the like*; I hope you will bear with my Freedom, I'll do no Man any wilful Wrong; but unleſs you can bear a free, plain, honeſt

honeſt Way of laying things open, you will never come at a right Information of things.

I cannot but obſerve, and could give Examples, if it were needful to name Names——— That no People are forwarder to cry out of the Loſs to *Scotland* by the Union, than thoſe that have got moſt Money by the Union——— None more forward to cry out of the Decay of Trade by the Union, than ſome of thoſe that have encreaſt their own Buſineſs by the Union——— But pray, Gentlemen, do not oblige me to ſay alſo, that they are forwardeſt to complain of the Danger of Religion, whoſe Share in it is beſt ſecured by the Union——— And that this may not be a Complaint, give me Leave to note to you, what Share the Church of *Scotland* bears in the preſent Proſecution of this *High-Flying* Party in *England* by the Parliament.

And here you are deſir'd to note, that tho' it is true the Noiſe is of a ſingle Man, one Dr. *Sacheverell* that is now under Proſecution by the Parliament, yet it is not the ſingle Perſon of a contemptible Prieſt, that makes all this Noiſe, it is not the Man merely, for whom ſuch a mighty Intereſt is made on both Sides——— It is not likely that for the Deliverance or Puniſhment of this one Man, ſuch ſtriving, ſuch heaving and thruſting ſhould be among Parties, and all the Nation be ſo vigorouſly Engag'd——— No, Gentlemen, the whole Cauſe is juſt now at Stake on both Sides, the whole Subſtance of *Britains* Safety is at the Stake——— The Queſtion is not, *Sacheverell* guilty, or clear to be puniſhed, or to be free——— But the Queſtion is——— Revolution, or Re-Revolution, Queen *ANNE*, or King *James* VIII. Union and Proteſtant Succeſſion, or Confuſion again and Abſolute Dominion———And therefore I cannot but move you in this part of this Iſland to look a little into the Matter, to ſee how far you are concerned in the Debate, and how you find your Security in the preſent Proceeding of the Parliament.

And firſt, let me tell you what this Party is, that is now ſtruggling for their Cauſe in Parliament, and then I'll tell you Hiſtorically how they go on.

This is the Party of whom I have all along ſpoken openly, that aim immediately at our general Confuſion, rather than to erect or pull down either Side——— Theſe are your abjuring ſwearing Friends——— That take all the Oaths Parliaments can invent——Swallow the hardeſt *Iron-bound* Proteſtations, Declarations, and Abjurations—will abjure any Body, and ſwear to any Body, and betray every Body———Do not miſtake me, Gentlemen, *they are not Jacobites* really; give the profeſt *Jacobites* their due, there is none among them that ever I ſaw ſo vile, ſo diſhonourable, but—theſe have double Faces, and both ſides Counterfeit———On one ſide *Jacobite*, on the other for Queen *ANNE*, and both in Maſquerade—Can you not ſee the cloven Foot under the covering, when they would prove the Divine Right of Hereditary Succeſſion from the *Queens Title*, and the Doctrine of Non-Reſiſtance from *the Revolution*; was ever Nation ſo banter'd as the *Engliſh*, and do you not wonder that thoſe things have been born with ſo long, and ſuffered to run ſuch a length; is it poſſible a Parliament could bear theſe things

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any longer: Let us put them into *Engliſh* a little, and ſee how they look; Reſiſtance upon any pretence whatſoever is utterly illegal, *That's the Aſſertion*; witneſs the Prince of *Orange* with 14000 Men at his Heels Invading King *James*, *there's the Probation*——Hereditary Succeſſion is of Divine Right, and cannot be Interrupted, Limited, or Superceded by any humane Power whatſoever, *witneſs* the Queens preſent Title to the Crown, which all the World knows is by Parliamentary Limitation.

This is excellent Logick, and agrees well with the uſual Strain of the Party: Theſe are the Men, and theſe the Principles that are now coming to Judgment, and I doubt not but you ſhall hear them receive the Sentence they deſerve——And I hope after they have received this Check, they will permit the World to be more at Peace than they uſed to be—Let us Examine whence come all the Diſturbances you meet with in theſe Northern Parts——I care not to charge Men wrongfully, I will not ſay 'tis the *Jacobites*, I mean the open known profeſt *Jacobites*—— Theſe are not the Innovators and Bringers in of ſtrange Worſhip, 'tis the ſwearing, Oath-taking, abjuring *Jacobites*— Theſe are the Men that pretend to Toleration, and are more dangerous to *Scotland* than the open profeſt Enemies who owne their Principle—— Ask Mr. *Greenſhiels*, he'll tell you he is well affected to the Government, he has taken the Oaths, he is no *Jacobite*. Ask your Northern Gentlemen in Commiſſion, and Magiſtrates that call a Presbyterian Miniſter, and go to hear the *Non-Juror*, they have all taken the Oaths——Theſe are the Men that are now Stag'd before the Parliament, and their Cauſe is Staged with them.

MISCELLANEA.

AND now, Gentlemen in *Scotland*, ſhall I ſay a Word or two relating to the Tryal of Dr. *Sacheverell* in *England* before the Parliament, you may perhaps think your ſelves not much concern'd in it—— But pray be pleaſed to enquire further into it——and I am miſtaken if you do not find all that is dear to you is Imbark'd in this Bottom, all your Liberties, your Privileges, whether Sacred or Civil, are engaged in this Diſpute.

Epiſcopacy in *Scotland*, Toleration in *England*, dethroning Queen *ANNE*, and erecting King *James* VIII. all ſtands or falls upon this Debate in Parliament, 'tis evident if *Sacheverell*'s Doctrine prevails, the Revolution falls, conſequently Union, Succeſſion, Presbyterian Eſtabliſhment, every thing muſt fall, on which we ſtand.

Nor let People flatter themſelves, or affright us here with Notions that 'tis Church of *England* Doctrine, it is true, he is a Church of *England* Clergy Man,

Man, but 'tis the Church of *England* is Affronted, 'tis a Church of *England* Houſe of Lords muſt Try him, a Church of *England* Houſe of Commons Impeaches him, and I dare ſay, you will find the very Biſhops of the Church of *England*, join in the Cenſuring him.

This is a Demonſtration of the declared Value the *Engliſh* Nation puts upon their Liberty, and which it is evident they will adhere to, however their other Intereſts may ſeem to claſh with it——This is a Principle, which, I hope, will ſoon ſpread it ſelf into *Scotland*, and ſhould it do ſo, ſhould your Eyes be but opened to the Advantages, they will alſo be opened to the Neceſſity of defending Liberty.

This Principle in *England* is the Advantage of the *Diſſenters*, and Protect their Toleration, and many a Man——votes in Parliament for the preſerving the Toleration, that would be glad there was not a *Diſſenter* left in the Nation——— The ſame Principle will lead the Parliament to puniſh every Invaſion of Liberty, let it be by what Hand, or in what Name ſoever.

The brief Application of this is, That the good People here need not be in Fear of Invaſions and Innovations, Toleration, and Encroachments from the Government; the Love of Liberty in *England* being a National Principle, will not permit the Government or the Parliament to ſuffer, much leſs to make any ſuch Depredations, no Parties, no Prejudices, no Advantages will prevail to permit it.

ADVERTISEMENT. from England.

THeſe are to certifie the Publick, That I *John Younger* of *Cogs-Hall* in *Eſſex*, having been blind of a Cataract for 32 Years, and about 34 Years of Age: One *Roger Grant*, who profeſſes himſelf, and ſets up for a great Oculiſt, boldly attempted to couch my Eye in *Auguſt*, 1708; but having kept his Needle working in my Eye for Half an Hour at leaſt, put me to very great Pain, without any the leaſt Succeſs. But afterwards I was recommended, by the chief Gentlemen of our Town, to Sir *WILLIAM READ*, Her Majeſty's OCULIST, in *Durham-Yard* in the *Strand*, *London*, in *October*, 1709, who couch'd me, and reſtor'd me to my perfect Sight in leſs than a Minute, without Pain or much Confinement.

I thought my ſelf oblig'd, in Gratitude and Duty to the ſaid Sir *WILLIAM READ*, to publiſh this; as alſo in Juſtice to the Publick, that the World may no longer be impos'd upon by Counterfeits and Pretenders. Given under my Hand, *October* 22, 1709.

John Younger.

From the Caſtle, *the Back-Side of St.* Clements.

I Do hereby certifie the Truth of the Certificate above, the ſaid *John Younger* lodging then at my Houſe, being the Sign of the *Caſtle* aboveſaid; and I being then preſent, ſaw Sir *WILLIAM READ* perform the aforeſaid Operation.

Sarah Heritage.